

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 396
By Jackson

A RESOLUTION to honor Sam Hannah on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body recognize those who in their years of work have performed their duties with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion; and

WHEREAS, Sam Hannah is one such outstanding person who has served with alacrity and acuity for 56 years with his own shop, Hannah's Barber & Beauty Shop; and

WHEREAS, without any formal barber lessons, Sam learned the haircutting trade from his father; and

WHEREAS, in 1939, Sam made his part-time trade a full-time business, opening his first barbershop next to the Bank of Dickson on Main Street in Dickson; and

WHEREAS, it was never Sam's intention to make a career of cutting hair; and

WHEREAS, he became a walking barbershop, carrying his clippers with him in case someone was in need of a haircut; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hannah still recalls the day he went to Nashville to take the barbers license test; uncertain of his ability to pass, he passed the exam on the first attempt and received his license; and

WHEREAS, Sam's Barbershop was more than just a place to get a haircut; it was a place to sit down, converse and have a good time; and

WHEREAS, a favorite customer of Sam's, Austin "Pap" Gilliam, brought a checkerboard to the shop one day, starting a tradition that would continue until the close of Sam's shop; and

WHEREAS, among the many barbers who came and went working with Sam's shop were: Archie Harmon, who joined Sam after serving in World War II; Romana Haynes, Sam's brother-in-law, who started in 1948 and continued to his death in the 1990's; W.R. Yates, a friend who came off of his farm; Rebecca Thompson, Sam's first female stylist, who joined the shop after Haynes death; and even Sam's granddaughter, Yvonne Hannah, who took over running the now closed shop; and

WHEREAS, Sam's customers were loyal, following Sam whenever the shop location changed; and

WHEREAS, this renowned barber's talents were appreciated by women as well - one female customer would come all the way down to Dickson from Nashville, just to have Sam cut her hair; and

WHEREAS, Sam Hannah also continues to share his love with his high school sweetheart, who is now his devoted wife, Christine; and

WHEREAS, their union has resulted in 7 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, his love for children is not only apparent in his personal life, Sam always had candy and bubble gum for the children he served in the shop; and

WHEREAS, this lover of people and life continues to play checkers with his old friend "Pap" most everyday at the Senior Citizen's Center; and

WHEREAS, Sam, who will be 80 years old the 8th of November, retired only because he was in too much pain to continue cutting hair; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hannah exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a great Tennessean; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That

we extend to Sam Hannah our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and continued success in future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.